

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00425 01 OF 02 191640Z

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGRE-00 EB-08

COME-00 OES-06 CU-02 EUR-12 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

/107 W

-----192318Z 010095 /72-70

R 191315Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5695

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 MAPUTO 0425

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, EAID, M, US

SUBJECT: UNHCR REP ASSESSESS SITUATION IN ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEE
CAMPS IN MOZAMBIQUE

REF: (A) MAPUTO 099; (B) STATE 39475

1. SUMMARY: ON APRIL 15 UNHCR REP SERGIO DE MELO
GAVE AMBASSADOR AND DCM HIS ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION
IN THREE ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEE CAMPS LOCATED IN MOZAMBIQUE.
ACCORDING DE MELO, CONDITIONS IN CAMPS VARY FROM AP-
PALLING TO ADEQUATE, WITH ALL IN NEED OF BETTER MANAGE-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00425 01 OF 02 191640Z

MENT AND MORE FOOD, HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL AND CLOTHING
ASSISTANCE. DOROI (THE LARGEST CAMP) IS "CHAOTIC-;
TRONGA IS IN SOMEWHAT BETTER SHAPE; MAVUDZI (THE SMALLEST
CAMP) IS IN FAIR TO ADEQUATE CONDITION. DE MELO
PLANS TO ASK UNHCR FOR ANOTHER \$1 MILLION FOR AID TO
ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES IN MOZAMBIQUE. DE MELO SAID THE
IMMEDIATE KEY TO IMPROVING CONDITIONS IN CAMPS IS

BETTER MANAGEMENT, WHICH WILL REQUIRE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT. DE MELO MEETS WITH MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS AFTERNOON OF APRIL 15 TO DISCUSS CAMP CONDITIONS AND TO IMPRESS UPON THEM THE NEED FOR IMPROVEMENT IN MANAGEMENT OF CAMPS AND DISTRIBUTION OF UN-DONATED SUPPLIES.
END SUMMARY.

2. UNHCR REP SERGION DE MELO (BRAZILIAN) CALLED AT EMBASSY APRIL 15 TO GIVE AMBASSADOR AND DCM HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE CONDITIONS IN THE THREE ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEE CAMPS LOCATED IN MOZAMBIQUE. DE MELO, ALONG WITH LOCAL UNICEF AND WFP REPS, TOURED THREE CAMPS BETWEEN MARCH 30 AND APRIL 4. TRIP TO CAMPS WAS DE MELO'S FIRST SINCE SEPTEMBER OF LAST YEAR AND WAS APPROVED BY MOZAMBIQUE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ONLY AFTER A WAIT OF FORTY-SIX DAYS. DE MELO PROVIDED FOLLOWING PICTURE OF GENERAL PROBLEMS AND SPECIFIC SHORTCOMINGS OF EACH CAMP..

3. GENERAL PROBLEMS: CONDITIONS AT CAMPS VARY GREATLY. HOWEVER, ALL CAMPS ARE SUFFERING FROM LACK OF ADEQUATE MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION, AS WELL AS SHORTAGES OF FOOD, HEALTH SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING. OVERALL ADMINISTRATION OF THE CAMPS HAS NOT BEEN GOOD. GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTION OF UNHCR, WFP AND UNICEF FOOD AND ASSISTANCE WAS DESCRIBED AS "NEARLY ADEQUATE" BUT IN SOME INSTANCES SUPPLIES (MAINLY FOOD) HAVE NOT REACHED ONE OF THE CAMPS DUE TO POOR LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS. DIETS AT ALL CAMP ARE PROTEIN AND VITAMIN DEFICIENT. HEALTH CARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00425 01 OF 02 191640Z

AND SANITARY CONDITIONS NEED TO BE GREATLY IMPROVED AND UP-GRADED. ESSENTIAL AND BASIC MEDICAL SUPPLIES- MALARIA SUPPRESSANTS, DYSENTERY CURES AND BANDAGES- ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY AND NONE OF THE CAMPS HAS A DOCTOR OR IS FREQUENTLY OR REGULARLY VISITED BY ONE.

4. DOROI: DOROI IS THE LARGEST OF THE CAMPS WITH AN ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 14,000 PEOPLE. IT WAS ESTABLISHED LAST SEPTEMBER AS A REPLACEMENT CAMP FOR NYAZONIA WHICH WAS DESTROYED BY RHODESIAN MILITARY UNITS IN AUGUST 1976. DE MELO SAID DOROI IS THE WORST OF THE THREE CAMPS. IT IS "COMPLETELY DISORGANIZED." THE FOOD PROBLEM IS CRITICAL. CAMP HAS NO MILK, MEAT, FISH, SALT OR SUGAR. PEOPLE ARE EATING ONLY MAIZE MEAL. HEALTH SITUATION IS NOT MUCH BETTER. POOR DIET ALONG WITH GENERALLY UNSANITARY HEALTH CONDITIONS HAVE CREATED SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS. MALNUTRITION, DYSENTERY, MALARIA, UNHEALED WOUNDS, SKIN ULCERS, PLUS A PANOPLY OF OTHER ILLNESSES ARE COMMON. A NUMBER OF WOMEN IN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00425 02 OF 02 192158Z
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00
OES-06 CU-02 EUR-12 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /102 W
-----192319Z 014484 /72-70

R 191315Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5696
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 MAPUTO 0425

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

CAMP ARE ALSO AFFLICTED BY SOME UNEXPLICABLE ILLNESS
WHICH CAUSES STIFFENING AND SWELLING OF JOINTS. THERE
ARE VIRTUALLY NO MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND ONLY ONE POORLY
TRAINED NURSE IN CAMP. DOCTORS OCCASIONALLY--BUT
INFREQUENTLY--COME FROM CHIMOIO, WHERE SERIOUS EMERGENCY
CASES ARE SENT. EDUCATIONAL PICTURE IS SOMEWHAT BETTER.
DOROI HAS TWO MAKE-SHIFT SCHOOLS AND NUMEROUS TEACHERS,
BUT IS SHORT OF BOOKS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS.
CLOTHING IS ALSO IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY. DE MELO
SAID ONLY BRIGHT SPOT IS THAT REFUGEES AT DOROI ARE
MAKING SOME EFFORT TO FEED THEMSELVES. THEY HAVE
APPROXIMATELY 180 HECTRES OF MAIZE UNDER CULTIVATION.
HOWEVER, WHEN THIS IS HARVESTED IT WILL FEED CAMP FOR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00425 02 OF 02 192158Z

ONLY MONTH AND A HALF. MORE IN THE WAY OF CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IF MORE TOOLS, SEEDS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WERE AVAILABLE.

5. TRONGA: TRONGA IS THE SECOND LARGEST CAMP WITH A REFUGEE POPULATION OF 11,000. IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN DECEMBER 1975, AND RANKS SECOND AFTER DOROI IN TERMS OF NEED. THE FOOD PROBLEM IS LESS SERIOUS THAN IN DOROI. BOTH THE SUPPLY AND VARIETY ARE GREATER, ALTHOUGH IT IS VITAMIN AND PROTEIN DEFICIENT, IT APPEARS THAT WFP SUPPLIES MAY NOT BE REACHING THE CAMP IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES. HEALTH CONDITIONS ARE MIXED. THERE IS A GENERAL SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES. HOWEVER, TRONGA HAS FIVE PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED (ZIMBABWEAN) NURSES WHO DE MELO SAID COULD BE DOING MUCH MORE (INCLUDING MINOR SURGERY) IF THEY HAD MORE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT. ALTHOUGH TRONGA NEEDS MORE IN THE WAY OF FOOD AND HEALTH SUPPLIES, IT IS BEST RUN AND ORGANIZED OF THE CAMPS. DE MELO ATTRIBUTES THIS TO THE FACT THAT ITS LOCAL LEADERS ARE POLITICALLY ORIENTED (TOWARD THE MUGABE FACTION OF ZANU) AND HAVE WORKED HARD TO IMPOSE A MEASURE OF ORGANIZATION AND DISCIPLINE AMONG THE REFUGEES. (DE MELO SAID THAT TRONGA CAMP IS THE ONLY CAMP WHICH SEEMED TO HAVE DIRECT LINKS WITH ANY OF THE NATIONALIST GROUPS. ALTHOUGH IT WAS CLEARLY NOT A MILITARY CAMP, HE SAID THAT HE WAS TOLD THAT DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS NEARLY 2,000 YOUNG MEN HAD LEFT THE CAMP TO JOIN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.)

6. MAVUDZI: MAVUDZI, LOCATED IN TETE PROVINCE, IS THE SMALLEST (3,600 REFUGEES) AND BEST MAINTAINED OF THE CAMPS. IT IS NOT TROUBLED BY THE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS THAT PLAGUE THE OTHER CAMPS. THE FOOD RATION IS AMPLE AND COMES FROM A WAREHOUSE IN MOATIZE, THE DIET, HOWEVER, COULD BE IMPROVED. SANITATION CONDITIONS ARE ALSO BETTER, PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MAPUTO 00425 02 OF 02 192158Z

CAMP IS SMALL. HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO DOCTORS OR QUALIFIED NURSES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES ARE INADEQUATE. DE MELO INDICATED THAT AGRICULTURAL, CLOTHING AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS WERE THE CAMPS GREATEST NEEDS. MAVUDZI'S REFUGEE POPULATION WILL PROBABLY DOUBLE WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR. OVER 3,000 ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN PART OF TETE PROVINCE, AND ARE BEING SLOWLY ROUNDED-UP AND MOVED TO CAMP BY MOZAMBIQUE AUTHORITIES.

7. NEED FOR GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE COOPERATION: DE

MELO SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MORE FOOD, MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND CLOTHING ARE NEEDED, THE KEY TO TURNING THE SITUATION AROUND RAPIDLY IS AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE INTERNAL MANAGEMENT OF THE CAMPS AND THE RATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF PAST AND FUTURE UN-DONATED FOOD AND HEALTH SUPPLIES. THIS WILL REQUIRE THE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT WHICH CONTROLS THE CAMPS. IN THE PAST THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO SEEK OUTSIDE ADVICE OR HELP IN RUNNING THE CAMPS. FOR EXAMPLE, DE MELO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT RESPONDED TO REQUESTS BY THE UNHCR TO SEND TECHNICAL ADVISORS TO THE CAMPS OR A NORWEGIAN OFFER TO SEND A MEDICAL TEAM TO MOZAMBIQUE SPECIFICALLY TO LOOK AFTER THE NEEDS OF REFUGEES. OTHER OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE HAVE ALSO NOT BE FOLLOWED-UP ON. WHEN HE MEETS WITH MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS FROM THE MINISTRIES OF INTERIOR AND DEVELOPMENT ON APRIL 15, DE MELO SAID HE INTENDS TO STRESS UPON THEM THE NEED FOR AND OVERALL IMPROVEMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CAMPS AND OF THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

8. NEW APPEAL FOR ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES: DE MELO SAID THAT HE WOULD BE LEAVING FOR GENEVA ON APRIL 20 TO MAKE A PERSONAL REPORT ABOUT THE REFUGEE CONDITIONS HERE, AS WELL AS ON HIS MEETING WITH MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS. AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MAPUTO 00425 02 OF 02 192158Z

A RESULT OF HIS FINDINGS AND TALKS WITH MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS, HE THINKS UNHCR WILL PROBABLY ISSUE A NEW APPEAL FOR REFUGEES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH MAY INCLUDE ONE MILLION DOLLARS FOR ZIMBAWE REFUGEES IN MOZAMBIQUE.

9. EMBASSY COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL. DE PREE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE CAMPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MAPUTO00425
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770136-0118
Format: TEL
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770443/aaaabkyz.tel
Line Count: 262
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a9e9b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MAPUTO 99, 77 STATE 39475
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2765314
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNHCR REP ASSESSESS SITUATION IN ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN MOZAMBIQUE
TAGS: SREF, EAID, MZ, US, UNHCR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a9e9b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009